

Message Text

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FOR AMBASSADOR OR CHARGE ONLY

E.O. 11652,GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MARR, GR, US

SUBJECT: HARTMAN-ALEXANDRAKIS APRIL 7 MEETING

1. IN PRESENTING LATEST GREEK TEXTS (SEE SEPARATE TELEGRAMS TO HARTMAN APRIL 7, ALEXANDRAKIS MADE FOLLOWING POINTS: (A) GREEK-US DEFENSE COOPERATION AGREEMENT MUST NOT BE "INFERIOR" TO TURKISH DCA; OTHERWISE, IT WILL NOT BE POSSIBLE FOR GOG TO PRESENT IT TO PARLIAMENT; (B) IN BITSIOS-KISSINGE EXCHANGE OF LETTERS, THERE MUST BE ASSURANCES THAT U.S. WILL OPPOSE "PROVOCATIVE" ACTIONS IN AEGEAN; (C) MILITARY ASSISTANCE "ADEQUATE" FOR GREECE'S DEFENSE NEEDS IS BEST GUARANTEE U.S. WOULD NOT BE PUT IN POSITION WHERE IT MIGHT HAVE TO INTERVENE IN AEGEAN; AND (D) GREEK SIDE IS WILLING TO DROP REFERENCE TO "DEMOGRAPHIC" FACTOR IN PARAGRAPH ON CYPRUS, BUT WANTS PHRASE "WHICH CORRESPONDS TO NEEDS OF GREEK-CYPRIOI COMMUNITY" AFTER "TERRITORIAL ARRANGEMENTS."

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2. ON PROCEDURE FOR HANDLING TEXTS, ALEXANDRAKIS INDICATED

THAT GREEK SIDE DOES NOT WANT ANY DOCUMENTS PUBLISHED BEFORE BITSIOS VISIT. IN OTHER WORDS, GREEKS NOW PREFER BITSIOS-KISSINGER EXCHANGE OF LETTERS ON AEGEAN AND CYPRUS BE RELEASED WHEN BITSIOS COMES TO WASHINGTON. ALSO, BY DELETING REFERENCE TO RECOMMITTING GREEK UNITS TO NATO IN "PRINCIPLES" TEXT AND BY DEALING WITH THIS ISSUE IN A

SEPARATE "TOP SECRET" DOCUMENT, GREEKS ARE OPEN TO POSSIBILITY OF PUBLISHING TEXT OF "PRINCIPLES."

3. ALEXANDRAKIS EMPHASIZED THAT CARAMANLIS IS UNDER INCREASING PRESSURE TO DISCUSS TURKISH DCA AND US-GREEK RELATIONSHIP IN PARLIAMENT AND THAT, THEREFORE, IT IS ESSENTIAL FOR OUR TWO SIDES TO AGREE ON TEXTS AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE AND TO SET TIME FOR BITSIOS' VISIT. ALEXANDRAKIS ALSO NOTED THAT 13 DAYS HAD PASSED SINCE TURKISH DCA AND THAT, IF MUCH MORE TIME ELAPSES, CARAMANLIS MAY BE FORCED TO SAY SOMETHING WHICH COULD BE "DETRIMENTAL" TO OUR RELATIONSHIP.

4. IN RESPONSE TO OUR QUESTIONS ON GREEK VERSION OF "PRINCIPLES" TEXT, ALEXANDRAKIS MADE CLEAR THAT OUR BILATERAL BASE NEGOTIATIONS TO DATE ARE "INADEQUATE" AND THAT WE MUST START ANEW WITH TURKISH DCA AS MODEL. ALSO, GREEKS INTEND TO KEEP RESTRICTIONS AT SOUDA BAY PENDING REVISION OF '59 AGREEMENT.

5. HARTMAN INDICATED THAT WE WOULD HAVE TO CONSULT WITH THE SECRETARY AND WITH DEFENSE ON GREEK CHANGES AND THAT WE WOULD GET BACK AS SOON AS WE COULD. HE ALSO STRESSED THAT IT IS MOST IMPORTANT THAT CARAMANLIS AVOID MAKING ANY PUBLIC COMMENTS WHICH WOULD PREJUDICE RESOLUTION OF ISSUES WE HAVE BEEN DISCUSSING, INCLUDING BITSIOS VISIT.

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